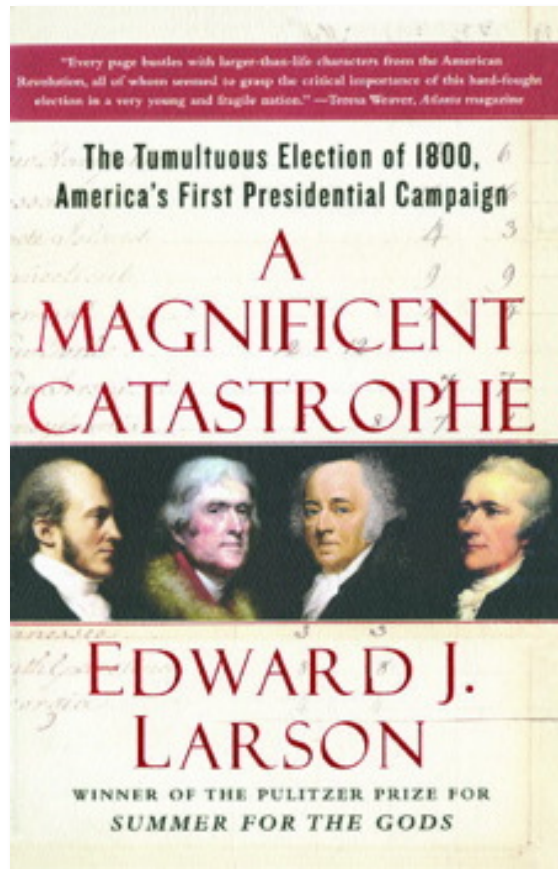




UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

Social Studies

Invitational A • 2025



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UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE SOCIAL STUDIES CONTEST

INVITATIONAL A • SPRING 2025

Part I: General Knowledge

The Rise of Factionalism, Partisanship, and the “Vices of Democracy” in the early United States (1 point each)

- As an outspoken critic of any efforts to limit the sovereignty of states, _____, quickly gained prominence as a member of the House of Representatives from Virginia beginning in 1799. His famously biting attacks led to a duel with Henry Clay on April 8, 1826 centering around comments about Clay’s actions during the election of 1824.
 - Thomas Hart Benton
 - Henry A. Wise
 - John C. Calhoun
 - John Randolph
- The Tallmadge Amendment was proposed during the debate over the territory of Missouri’s application for statehood. It dealt with the issue of slavery by immediately _____.
 - banning the importation of enslaved people into the state of Missouri
 - banning the practice in future states north of Missouri
 - banning the practice in the state of Missouri
 - banning the importation of enslaved people into future states north of Missouri
- The first documented assassination attempt on a U.S. president was against _____ while he walked to the Capitol. His assailant believed the President was a false “king” that kept him from rightfully claiming the British throne.
 - George Washington
 - William Henry Harrison
 - Andrew Jackson
 - John Quincy Adams
- In 1852, a women’s rights convention was held in Syracuse, New York which featured the first collaboration of _____ and _____ who had met the previous year at a Seneca Falls anti-slavery meeting. The two would lead the women’s suffrage movement for the next half-century.
 - Lucy Stone; Alice Paul
 - Susan B. Anthony; Elizabeth Cady Stanton
 - Carrie Chapman Catt; Elizabeth Cady Stanton
 - Angelina Grimké; Carrie Chapman Catt

5. In 1836, _____ resigned as a U.S. Senator from Virginia because he refused to go back on his vote to censure Andrew Jackson. In the lead up to the election of 1840, this endeared him to many Whigs despite his previous support of the Democratic Party.
- A. John C. Calhoun
B. William Henry Harrison
C. Henry Clay
D. John Tyler
6. It is unclear what the actual plans of _____ were in regards to the Western areas of the U.S. and Spanish territories. This could be due to a desire to keep his options open based on wherever he could get the most support. Ultimately, he was betrayed by General James Wilkinson to the U.S. government in 1806.
- A. Andrew Jackson
B. Edmond-Charles Genêt
C. Nat Turner
D. Aaron Burr
7. The Tariff of 1828 and its increased support of protective tariff rates led to it being branded as the “Tariff of Abominations” and John C. Calhoun anonymously publishing the _____
- A. Ordinance of Nullification
B. Pakenham Letter
C. South Carolina Exposition and Protest
D. Address of Southern Delegates to their Constituents
8. Winfield Scott, Andrew Jackson, and William Henry Harrison would all gain recognition for their roles in the _____. Each of them would eventually become candidates for the presidency partially based on their accomplishments during this event.
- A. Creek War
B. War of 1812
C. Aroostook War
D. Seminole War
9. The *Chesapeake-Leopard* Affair was largely a result of U.S. and British disagreements over issues arising from the _____.
- A. impressment of sailors
B. Orders in Council
C. Embargo Act
D. British blockade
10. William Lloyd Garrison, Arthur Tappan, and Theodore S. Wright were among those who formed the _____ in 1833, with Tappan serving as its first president.
- A. Order of the Star-Spangled Banner
B. Temperance Society
C. American Colonization Society
D. American Anti-Slavery Society

11. Margaret O’Neale Timberlake Eaton was better known as Peggy and found herself at the center of a political crisis stemming from her ostracization by much of Washington society during Jackson’s first term. The leader of the snubbing campaign seems to have been the wife of _____ which worsened a growing divide between her husband and the president.

- A. John C. Calhoun
- B. John Bell
- C. Lewis Cass
- D. William Duane

12. Daniel Webster would resign from the U.S. Senate to serve as Secretary of State under Millard Fillmore in 1850. Webster agreed to help Fillmore reshuffle the cabinet after the death of President Taylor, but also believed he would lose his seat due to the renunciation of his _____ in his home state and much of New England.

- A. enforcement of the Fugitive Slave Act
- B. previous support of President Tyler
- C. vote against the Walker Tariff
- D. “Seventh of March Speech”

13. Andrew Jackson was ordered to quell unrest along the border with Spanish Florida and in 1818 he invaded the territory. He occupied Pensacola, executed two British citizens, and established a military government. Only the strong support of _____ saved Jackson from being censured for his aggressive actions.

- A. William Crawford
- B. John C. Calhoun
- C. John Quincy Adams
- D. James Monroe

14. The _____ centered around articles printed in the *Washington Republican* leading up to the election of 1824 seeking to discredit William Crawford’s actions as Secretary of Treasury involving the use of certain state banks.

- A. A.B. Plot
- B. Hammett Letter
- C. Henry-Craig Plot
- D. Graves-Cilley duel

- Elected Speaker of the House of Representatives in 1834
- Nominated as Secretary of War in 1841
- Elected as U.S. Senator from Tennessee in 1847
- Presidential nominee in 1860

15. All of the statements above describe _____.

- A. John C. Breckinridge
- B. John Bell
- C. James K. Polk
- D. John Eaton

16. With the resignation of Thomas Jefferson from Washington's cabinet at the end of 1793, the administration leaned even further towards the Federalists. Propelling this movement were the suppression of the Whiskey Rebellion in 1794 and the mission of _____ to conclude a treaty with Great Britain.
- A. Thomas Pinckney
B. John Adams
C. John Quincy Adams
D. John Jay
17. Although the *National Intelligencer* began as a party newspaper in 1800, the talents, principles, and government connections of _____ soon helped it to develop into one of the nation's most influential periodicals. It would be known as the "court paper" of the Jefferson administration.
- A. Philip Barbour
B. William Duane
C. Duff Green
D. Samuel Harrison Smith
18. The first ever Democratic National Convention was held in _____ in 1832. The Anti-Masonic Party as well as the National Republicans had met in the same location the previous year to nominate their presidential candidates.
- A. Chicago
B. Baltimore
C. New York City
D. Philadelphia
19. The War Hawks, composed of young men elected to Congress in 1810, included such future political leaders as Henry Clay and _____. They were indignant over British encouragement of Native American hostilities toward settlers in the Northwest and hoped to use war with England to wrest Florida from Spain, Britain's ally.
- A. Daniel Webster
B. Andrew Jackson
C. James K. Polk
D. John C. Calhoun
20. In December 1835, the Treaty of New Echota, signed by a small minority of the _____, ceded all tribal land east of the Mississippi River to the U.S. for \$5 million. The overwhelming majority of tribal members repudiated the treaty and took their case to the U.S. Supreme Court.
- A. Seminole
B. Cherokee
C. Creek
D. Potawatomi

Part II: Primary Source Material

A Magnificent Catastrophe: The Tumultuous Election of 1800, America's First Presidential Campaign

by Edward J. Larson

(2 points each)

21. _____ was the son of a noted theologian who served as the Princeton College president and of the scholarly daughter of the legendary evangelical minister, Jonathan Edwards.
- A. Aaron Burr
B. George Clinton
C. John Adams
D. John Jay
22. In February 1800, _____ introduced a bill in the U.S. Senate that would have created a thirteen-member “grand Committee” to rule on the qualifications of presidential electors.
- A. Theodore Sedgwick
B. James Ross
C. Robert Troup
D. Fisher Ames
23. Thomas Jefferson said nothing in public, and appears to have said nothing in private, about _____ death. His silence and absence from the funerary procession provoked criticism. Only after the election of 1800, did Jefferson call on his widow
- A. George Washington’s
B. Alexander Hamilton’s
C. Benjamin Franklin’s
D. Patrick Henry’s
24. So many Americans still admired _____ for his role in the struggle for independence that his portrait continued to hang in the House of Representatives more than seven years after his own people had overthrown him.
- A. Marquis de Lafayette
B. Charles I
C. Louis XVI
D. Napoleon Bonaparte
25. To bolster the chances for at least some of their candidates to finish among the top twenty-one candidates for electors, Federalists in _____ ran on the “American Republican Ticket” and nominated one candidate with the same first and last name as that of an opponent.
- A. South Carolina
B. Virginia
C. New York
D. Pennsylvania

26. Following a series of highly politicized trials, Supreme Court Justice _____ sentenced John Fries and two of his closest confederates to hang for treason.
- A. John Jay
B. William Patterson
C. Bushrod Washington
D. Samuel Chase
27. Outside of _____, John Adams received more electoral votes in 1800 than in 1796, when he won the presidential election.
- A. Pennsylvania
B. Georgia
C. New York
D. North Carolina
28. In a private meeting on May 5, 1800, all of Adams' pent-up fury fell on _____. Adams listed accusations from aiding Hamilton's power grab in the Army and subverting Adams' peace mission, to buying shoddy clothes for the troops and refusing a commission for the lone North Carolina elector that supported Adams in 1796.
- A. Oliver Wolcott
B. Timothy Pickering
C. Samuel Dexter
D. James McHenry
29. A leading New York Federalist had predicted that on the second ballot of the election in the House, "some...will come over to vote for Burr," but Republican congressmen from New York and _____ had held a secret caucus a few days earlier and pledged to stick by Jefferson.
- A. Massachusetts
B. South Carolina
C. New Jersey
D. North Carolina
30. Jefferson outlined a scheme by which the Federalists might extend their rule. By deadlocking the House, Jefferson noted, that Federalists could allow the presidency to devolve to the _____. Under the Constitution, as of 1801, if the top two posts became vacant, that officer would act as U.S. President.
- A. Speaker of the House
B. Secretary of Treasury
C. Chief Justice of the Supreme Court
D. president pro tempore of the Senate
31. In a stunningly selfish and self-destructive defense of his public honor, Alexander Hamilton issued a written statement admitting an extramarital affair in order to deny _____.
- A. accepting bribes
B. illegally selling public land
C. speculating in government securities
D. paying for votes in Congress

32. In 1786, Virginia enacted Jefferson’s Statute of Religious Freedom. By law, the state had established the _____ Church since the colonial times, but the legislation stated that “no man shall be compelled to frequent or support any religious worship.”
- A. Unitarian
B. Puritan
C. Episcopal
D. Presbyterian
33. Gabriel was born in 1776 and became a blacksmith which allowed him to work at various sites in and around the state capital of _____.
- A. Williamsburg
B. Annapolis
C. Raleigh
D. Richmond
34. In 1796, Burr professed to feeling betrayed by Southern Republicans. This was particularly true for Jefferson’s Virginia electors, who gave fifteen votes to _____, three to George Clinton, and only one to Burr.
- A. John Jay
B. Thomas Pinckney
C. Samuel Adams
D. Henry Knox
35. On the fateful day of July 4, 1776, _____ spoke as president of the Continental Congress and the nearest thing to an elected leader when he said, “We must be unanimous. There must be no pulling different ways; we must all hang together.” Benjamin Franklin reportedly added, “...or most assuredly we shall hang separately.”
- A. Roger Sherman
B. John Hancock
C. John Dickinson
D. George Washington

Part III: Supplemental Readings
(3 points each)

“Among the means of advancing the public interest the occasion is a proper one for recalling the attention of Congress to the great importance of establishing throughout our country the _____ which can best be executed under the national authority. No objects within the circle of political economy so richly repay the expense bestowed on them....”

36. The quote above from James Madison’s seventh annual message to Congress can be completed with which of the following?
- A. Second Bank of the United States
B. roads and canals
C. port and harbor defenses
D. institutions of higher learning

37. As his last official act as president, _____ sent a veto message to Congress on March 3, 1817 to explain his reasons for not signing “An act to set apart and pledge certain funds for internal improvements.”
- A. Andrew Jackson
B. James Monroe
- C. Thomas Jefferson
D. James Madison
38. In the election of 1800, three states split their votes between the parties. In Pennsylvania and North Carolina, it was due to agreements by the state legislatures, but in _____ it was the result of a district system for selecting electors. It ended up awarding five votes to the Republicans and five votes to the Federalists.
- A. Maryland
B. New York
- C. South Carolina
D. Virginia
39. The case of _____ centered around a woman named Margaret Morgan being forcibly taken to Maryland by an agent of the relatives of her former enslaver John Ashmore. Morgan and her children, which were not “fugitives,” were captured and sold to a slave trader.
- A. *Fletcher v. Peck*
B. *Cohens v. Virginia*
- C. *Martin v. Hunter’s Lessee*
D. *Prigg v. Pennsylvania*
40. _____, who later became the president of South Carolina College, was an English lawyer and radical who had moved to the U.S. in 1794. He was found guilty in 1800 for violating the Sedition Act with a handbill arguing that the country had been needlessly saddled with the expense of a permanent navy and a standing army.
- A. Thomas Cooper
B. James Callender
- C. Matthew Lyon
D. Charles Holt
41. Henry Clay narrowly lost the presidency in the election of 1844 largely due to his position on the _____ which he outlined in his *Raleigh* and *Alabama letters*. His attempt to find middle ground, on something he did not deem as pressing, led to a loss of support in multiple parts of the country.
- A. annexation of Texas
B. Oregon Territory
- C. Bank of the United States
D. tariff issue

42. Martin Van Buren had hopes that his favored candidate, _____, could win the contingent election for the presidency in the U.S. House, but many members, including Henry Clay, believed the candidate's recent illness removed him from serious consideration.
- A. Andrew Jackson
B. John C. Calhoun
C. William Crawford
D. DeWitt Clinton
43. In 1804, Federalist Senator _____, of Massachusetts, called for a constitutional amendment overturning the Three-Fifths Compromise thereby greatly reducing the number of slave state representatives.
- A. Daniel Webster
B. John Quincy Adams
C. Timothy Pickering
D. Theodore Sedgwick
44. In the South Carolina Ordinance of Nullification, the convention stated that if the Congress were to pass any laws forcing the state to abide by the tariffs then the people of South Carolina would proceed to _____.
- A. establish a military force for purposes of protection
B. call a convention to entreat sister states for support
C. seek the aid and comfort of sympathetic nations
D. organize a separate sovereign government
45. In his veto message on June 11, 1844, John Tyler argued that the bill sent to him sought to improve certain harbors and rivers which he deemed "would be for the most part productive _____."
- A. only of local benefit
B. in the Western regions
C. at the cost of Southern states
D. if an amendment were passed

ESSAY PROMPT:

NOTE: Contestants who do not write an essay will be disqualified. Any essay that does not demonstrate a sincere effort to discuss the assigned topic will be disqualified. The rankings of essays will be based primarily on how well the topic has been addressed. A focused, concise and specific essay beats a vague and rambling essay. Proper grammar and organization should be used to aid clarity, but should not be considered a major factor in scoring. Cover as many corners of the issue as practical. Avoid including personal editorialized opinions, as more than enough information on the subject has been published.

“The considerations which had reconciled me to the success of Mr. Pinckney, were of a nature exclusively public. They resulted from the disgusting egotism, the distempered jealousy, and the ungovernable indiscretion of Mr. Adams’s temper, joined to some doubts of the correctness of his maxims of Administration. ... And in conversation, he repeatedly made excursions in the field of foreign politics, which alarmed the friends of the prevailing system.”

“A primary cause of the state of things which led to this event, is to be traced to the ungovernable temper of Mr. Adams. It is a fact that he is often liable to paroxysms of anger, which deprive him of self-command, and produce very outrageous behaviour to those who approach him. Most, if not all his Ministers, and several distinguished Members of the two Houses of Congress, have been humiliated by the effects of these gusts of passion.”

-Excerpts from Letter from Alexander Hamilton, Concerning the Public Conduct and Character of John Adams, Esq. President of the United States

Alexander Hamilton was one of the most significant figures in crafting the systems of governance and economics that still prevail in the United States today. Though his abilities were unquestionably great, his flaws of egoism, temper, and impulsivity also exerted weighty influence on the politics of his time. Discuss Hamilton’s attempts at influencing the major events of John Adams’ presidency, the election of 1800, and its outcome.

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UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
SOCIAL STUDIES CONTEST

SET A • 2025

ANSWER KEY

Part I (1 point each)	Part II (2 points each)	Points contestants could mention in their essay:	
1. D	21. A (pg. 88)	Background	•After Adams disbanded the Additional Army and sent another mission to France, Hamilton began to ask Wolcott and Pickering to take files to use for his attack on Adams which he issued after they were dismissed.
2. A	22. B (pg. 78)	•Hamilton became a trusted advisor to Washington as his aide-de-camp then represented NY in the Congress under the Articles before calling for and attending the Constitutional Convention.	• He visited New England to convince Federalists to support C.C. Pinckney over Adams
3. C	23. A (pg. 55)	•He supported a stronger central government bordering on the aristocratic nature of the UK system. He wrote over 50 of the 85 Federalists Papers to help ratify the Constitution.	•He made a concerted effort to win legislative seats from NYC with candidates more known to be loyal to him than for their electability. He asked Gov. Jay of NY for a new election to overturn the democratic and fair Republican win in the legislative election.
4. B	24. C (pg. 68)	•As the 1 st Secretary of Treasury & Washington's main advisor, he engineered a National Bank, the assumption of state debts, & a system of government credit.	•He claimed Adams was unfit for office due to his temperament even though he ended his 54-page rant by stating his support for voting for Adams and Pinckney. It was not well received and did irreparable harm to his influence and led to a rebuke by Noah Webster and other moderate Federalists.
5. D	25. B (pg. 160)	•He influenced foreign policy, supported the Jay Treaty & a pro-British stance.	•He convinced Federalists, McHenry and Carroll, in MD not to support election efforts.
6. D	26. D (pg. 128)	•He undercut support for Adams from 1789 making overtures to replace him with Pinckney as VP in 1792 & at the top of the ticket in 1796.	Contingent Election
7. C	27. C (pg. 250)	Adams' Presidency	•Hamilton believed Burr to have no principles and argued with Speaker of the House Theodore Sedgwick and Federalist Representatives against their support for Burr over Jefferson after they tied in the Electoral College.
8. B	28. D (pg. 126)	•Hamilton retained the loyalty of High Federalists including Adams' cabinet holdovers from Washington (Pickering, Wolcott, and McHenry) and used them to influence and undercut policy such as peace negotiations with France	•He focused his efforts on Delaware's lone member in the House, James Bayard.
9. A	29. C (pg. 265)	•He used Washington to be named the de facto head of the Additional Army which he used to expand his influence, push for taxes to fund the force, suppress Republican activities, and to gain support for an invasion of Florida.	•His influence in the Federalist Party had ebbed significantly due to his continued efforts to siphon support from Adams and his calls went largely unheeded though Bayard and others eventually dropped their support for Burr.
10. D	30. D (pg. 245)	•He and the Essex Junto put pressure on others to disavow the peace mission to France.	
11. A	31. C (pg. 133)	Election of 1800	
12. D	32. C (pg. 167)	•Hamilton tried to get support for Washington to run again prior to his death in 1799.	
13. C	33. D (pg. 190)		
14. A	34. C (pg. 115)		
15. B	35. B (pg. 2)		
16. D	Part III (3 points each)		
17. D	36. B		
18. B	37. D		
19. D	38. A		
20. B	39. D		
	40. A		
	41. A		
	42. C		
	43. C		
	44. D		
	45. A		